

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed March 19, 2008 in which claims 1-16 were pending. Claims 8-16 were allowed. Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over James et al. ("A Fast Lattice-Based Approach to Vocabulary Independent Wordspotting," Proc. ICASSP, Adelaide, 1994, hereinafter "James") in view of Loghmani et al. (U.S. Pat No. 6,377,927, hereinafter "Loghmani"). Claims 1-7 have been cancelled.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the application is in form for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By: 

Todd R. Fronek, Reg. No. 48,519
900 Second Avenue South, Suite 1400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

TRF:lah